

Message Text

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13

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 /128 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECP:MDAVILA:MB
APPROVED BY ARA/ECP:WEKNEPPER
ARA-LA/CEN:TMEHEN (DRAFT)
EB/GCP:DDUNFORD (DRAFT)
EB/OF:RSIMPSON (DRAFT)
EB/TRP:PPILKAUSKAS (DRAFT)
AGRICULTURE:KREYNOLDS (DRAFT)
STR:BSTEINBOCK (DRAFT)
COMMERCE:RRODRIGUEZ (DRAFT)
TREASURY:JJOHNSON (DRAFT)

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R 012153Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, NU

SUBJECT: INVENTORY OF NICARAGUA TRADE PROBLEMS

1. ONE OF THE KEY AREAS OF LATIN AMERICAN CONCERN HAS BEEN THAT OF US-LATIN AMERICAN TRADE ISSUES. THIS WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE MEXICO CITY AND WASHINGTON FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETINGS AND BY AMBASSADOR EBERLE'S TRADE CONSULTATION TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVES IN THE TRADE FIELD, THE DEPARTMENT IS IDENTIFYING THE SIGNIFICANT COUNTRY-SPECIFIC TRADE PROBLEMS OF THE REGION.

2. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED A PRE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIMINARY INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE ISSUES AFFECTING

NICARAGUA (SEE PARA. 3). THE ISSUES HAVE BEEN GROUPED UNDER FOUR GENERAL HEADINGS WHICH INCLUDE PROBLEMS THAT NICARAGUA HAS WITH THE US AS WELL AS PROBLEMS WE HAVE WITH THEM. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW THE LISTING AND SUBMIT ANY ADDITIONS OR COMMENTS BY AUGUST 9.

3.A. PRINCIPAL NICARAGUAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH THE US:

1. TOBACCO: NICARAGUA HAS REQUESTED PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT SIMILAR TO THAT FORMERLY ACCORDED THE PHILIPPINES FOR ITS TOBACCO PRODUCTS. LAST YEAR NICARAGUA EXPORTED 3.2 MILLION DOLLARS OF RAW TOBACCO AND A SMALL AMOUNT OF FINISHED CIGARS.

2. MEAT IMPORTS: NICARAGUA HAS REQUESTED THAT IT BE REMOVED FROM THE LIST OF THOSE COUNTRIES HAVING HOG CHOLERA AND ALSO THAT IT BE PERMITTED TO SELL CATTLE ON THE HOOF IN THE US.

3. MEAT QUOTA: SHOULD IMPORT QUOTAS ON MEAT BE RE-ESTABLISHED, NICARAGUA WOULD BE CONCERNED THAT WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE EFFORTS IT HAS MADE TO EXPORT MEAT TO THE US AT OUR REQUEST. IN 1973 NICARAGUA'S BEEF EXPORTS TO THE US WERE 54,851,000 POUNDS.

4. SUGAR: SHOULD SUGAR PRICES DECLINE, NICARAGUA WOULD BE CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY IN THE ABSENCE OF NEW US SUGAR LEGISLATION. IN 1972 NICARAGUA EXPORTED 108,537 METRIC TONS, OF WHICH 72,715 MT WENT TO THE US.

B. PRINCIPAL US TRADE PROBLEMS WITH NICARAGUA:

1. SMALL CARS: WE HAVE ASKED NICARAGUA TO REVISE HER TARIFFS THAT PRESENTLY FAVOR SMALL EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE IMPORTS OVER AMERICAN.

C. PRINCIPAL NICARAGUAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES: NONE IDENTIFIED.

D. PRINCIPAL NICARAGUAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH NON-HEMISPHERIC COUNTRIES: NONE IDENTIFIED. KISSINGER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOBACCO, FOREIGN TRADE, ECONOMIC REPORTS, MEATS, IMPORT QUOTAS, AUTOMOBILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE167782
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDAVILA:MB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740210-0498
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740881/aaaacrrq.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INVENTORY OF NICARAGUA TRADE PROBLEMS
TAGS: ETRD, NU, US
To: MANAGUA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005